

## I. AMENDMENTS

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 16, 19, 20, and 67 without prejudice to renewal.

Please enter the amendments to claims 15 and 21, as shown below.

1.-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) [[A]] An *in vitro* screening assay for determining a candidate agent's diacylglycerol-*O*-acyltransferase (DGAT) modulatory inhibitory activity, said assay comprising:

(a) contacting a DGAT polypeptide with said candidate agent, wherein said DGAT polypeptide exhibits diacylglycerol-*O*-acyltransferase activity, and wherein said DGAT polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least [[90%]] 98% amino acid sequence identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:6; and

(b) detecting a change in DGAT enzymatic activity of said DGAT polypeptide compared to a control to determine said candidate agent's DGAT modulatory inhibitory activity.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously presented) The screening assay according to Claim 15, wherein said DGAT polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 98% amino acid sequence identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:6.

18. (Previously presented) The screening assay according to Claim 15, wherein said DGAT polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:6.

19.-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) The screening assay according to Claim 15 [[20]], wherein said contacting comprises introducing said candidate agent into a cell that includes said DGAT polypeptide.

22.-65. (Canceled)

66. (Previously presented) The screening assay according to Claim 15, wherein said detecting comprises detecting incorporation of a detectably labeled fatty acyl CoA into a diacylglycerol acceptor.

67. (Canceled)